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MARGINAL COLUMN
BY ARTHUR SAUL KUPCH

THERE was a garrulous walrus once, apparently a product of a "silly season" such as that now affecting the British press, who did not hesitate to mix the subjects of his conversation and thought that the time was ripe to talk about such divergent topics as cabbages and kings. In this country we are normally spared this period of death of news. There is always some news here that will prove of wide interest. Or at least there is always someone coming up with a proposition to sell the throne of Israel and hand over megalomaniacal treasures to some credulous buyer. But Britain has to rely on what the inventive publicist turns up, and there is always the Royal Family as a stand-by. This year an inelegant variation has been provided by Lord Altrincham's criticism of the content of Queen Elizabeth's speeches and the sort of "twedy" Court she has gathered round her.

ONE is rather puzzled as to just what is required of a monarch these days. The reigning monarch in London is an able and dedicated young woman who has a heavy burden of formal duties to perform, and who is allowed less latitude in freedom of expression and action than the humblest taxpayer of her realm. She is nevertheless criticized by one of her own peers for the very faithfulness with which she performs these duties in accordance with the strict letter of the constitution. On the same day that one reads of this one hears also of the latest addition to the shrinking company of crowned heads. As Malaysia approaches independence she is to provide herself with a king, for in the eyes of the Malays, used to the pattern of rule by sultans, life cannot be complete without some sort of king. Their choice is no well-tutored young aristocrat who makes "priggish" speeches, but a jungle chieftain who will reign for five years to begin with and will continue only subject to the approval of the nine hereditary chiefs who absolutely unpronounceable names who elected him. (One might remark in parenthesis that the problem of appointing a U.S. Ambassador to Malaysia is going to be quite a trial for the State Department after all the trouble they had over the nomination of Ambassador-designate Gluck to Czechoslovakia.)

THE fact is that just as little as the girls dream of princely marriages, the boys seem to long for kings to reign over them. When the first Israel commonwealth was in the making, the Hebrews began to clamor for a king. At first they appointed Saul, who stood head and shoulders above his people, but he was soon supplanted by David, who founded a dynasty which lasted right into the First Century, if the claims of the Hasmonian house are to be accepted. Entirely unaccustomed to the rule of a king, the Jews today in the hearts of countless shouts that "David, King of Israel, lives and endures," saying anything. Certain it is that many of the Jews today in some form or another the King of the House of David will come into his own at the end of days as the Messiah. Sir L.B. Namias calculated in 1925 that there must be some 250,000 descendants of the blood of the Wilna Gaon, who lived less than two centuries before that time. If that is true, then there is probably not a Jew living today who is not a lineal descendant of the house of David. That makes our monarchy very democratic and gives everyone a chance to consider himself a candidate for the throne, and also makes it feasible that we have another shepherd to lead the flock to the royal seat in the expectation of finding a purchaser.

PERHAPS the basic reason for this longing for kingship is that kings are after all but men with wings and we all aspire to the dreams of our better self. Despite this, rational people nowadays organize themselves in the guise of monarchies. When one really probes Israel's unsatisfactory experience of monarchy one appreciates that it is a good thing that we have not put off its reintroduction to the far-off nebulous messianic days. We do better as a republic seeking the friendship and understanding of other republics who either have no kings or also dispensed with them because the logic of liberty, equality and fraternity demanded it. Let us therefore cease to surrender to the spirit of the silly season and dilate upon kings, and instead welcome M. Jacques Soustelle and his colleagues from France who have also once had a king, dispensed with him and went on from that point to give the world its true philosophy of respect for the human being as an equal individual in a democratic society.

UK Wants Talks On Cyprus With Greece, Turkey

LONDON, Monday (Reuters). — Britain has sounded Greece and Turkey about the possibility of a further conference on the future of Cyprus, usually well-informed sources said today.

In Athens, press reports said the British Embassy had conveyed to the Greek Government an invitation to attend talks on Cyprus with Britain and Turkey. Diplomatic sources refused to confirm the reports.

Questioned about these press reports from Greece, the Foreign Office spokesman said Britain had been in touch with Greece and Turkey for a number of weeks to find a way of making progress in Cyprus, but he would have nothing to say about a further international conference.

But a well-informed source said Britain was sounding out the Greek and Turkish governments about a further international conference.

The source added that such a conference would not simply be a repetition of the 1955 conference held here in the summer of 1955.

The Secretary-General of NATO, M. Paul-Henri Spaak, is now in the middle of the settlement of the Cyprus question, it was pointed out.

The same sources said the British Government was now aware of the Greek view that the right way to solve the Cyprus problem was to hold talks direct with the Cypriot people and not through the Archbishop Makarios, leader of the Cypriot movement for union with Greece.

Israel Rejects Bulgarian Offer Which Denies Responsibility

Israel has rejected a recent Bulgarian proposal in connection with compensation for the loss of life and the damage caused by the shooting down by Bulgarian troops of an Israeli passenger plane in 1955.

The Jerusalem Post learns that, in its latest Note, Bulgaria refused to accept responsibility for the shooting down of the plane, but offered to contribute towards meeting individual compensation claims.

On the second anniversary of the incident, the Foreign Ministry last night issued a statement deploring the fact that the Bulgarian Government "has not yet fulfilled its explicit promise to punish the guilty and pay compensation for the serious damage caused by this grave act."

The statement continued: "The shooting down of the plane constituted a flagrant violation of the accepted principles of the sanctity of human life and of the most elementary regard for the safety of innocent passengers making their way by air in a civilian plane in times of peace. Not unnaturally, public opinion in Israel and the entire world has been deeply shaken, and the incident has left its mark in the hearts of all people of good-will."

The reaction of the Bulgarian Government, after the accident and later gave every reason to assume that it indeed acknowledged responsibility for the disaster and that it was prepared to draw the conclusions from this act. However, we are witnessing in an increasing degree manoeuvres of procrastination and evasion on the part of the Government.

"On July 26, 1957, the Foreign Minister, in a reply to a question by a Member in the Knesset, as to how far negotiations regarding the claim of the Israel Government against the Government of Bulgaria have proceeded, stated with regret that, despite the many and frequent representations of the Foreign Ministry, our representatives were unable to secure a pledge from Bulgarian officials as to whether the Government was going to fulfil the promise expressed in a Note of August 4, 1955, to pay compensation."

"These endeavours have been continuing during the past few weeks."

"Much to our regret and disappointment the Bulgarian Government has lately come out with a proposition which tried to renege on its responsibility for the accident. This proposition is, of course, entirely unacceptable to Israel. The Government cannot believe that this presents the considered attitude of the Bulgarian Government, and is continuing to be in contact with Bulgaria with a view to inducing her to abide by her international obligations." (Memorial — Page 3)

U.S. Army Needs Tough Gentlemen

FRANKFURT, Monday (UPI). — The U.S. Army is screening out more than 55,000 "problem" soldiers in its "alarming-down" programme, Army Secretary Wilbur M. Brucker said today.

Mr. Brucker said he had been brushed considerably by a series of incidents involving U.S. servicemen in Germany last year. In one, a 15-year-old girl was raped by seven G.I.s.

"The U.S. Army is not a reform school," he said. "We want good, tough fighting men, but we do not want any but gentlemen."

Imam Asks US, USSR To Stop Britain

CAIRO, Monday (Reuters). — The leader of the Oman rebels today appealed to Russia and the U.S. to stop the fighting in the Sultanate and the Sultan, with the help of British troops, prepared to mount a counter-attack.

The appeal, handed to the Soviet and U.S. Embassies here, asked the two countries to help in "putting an end to the aggressive acts of the British forces against the people of Oman."

At the same time, the nine-nation Arab League called on Afro-Asian nations, including China, to intervene against Britain. (See next column.)

The appeal to Russia and the U.S. was signed by Prince Sal bin Issa El Harty, Deputy Imam of Oman.

Identical notes were sent to President Eisenhower and President Voroshilov saying: "We in the name of the Imam of Oman, his free people, justice, humanity and international pact, ask you to stop the British Government at the point which it has reached and to forbid it from interfering between us and the Sultan so that the blood of old men, women and children does not flow today."

British Advance

In Oman itself, Venom fighters today made sorties over the rebel areas, damaging two lorries near Tanug, according to an official communication here today.

Although no official information is being released, it is reliably understood in Manama, Bahrain, that British ground forces are steadily moving into Oman, and that the commanding officer of these forces, Brigadier A. R. Robertson, left Manama by air for Oman today.

Rebels Organize Strike in Cuba

HAVANA, Monday. — A rebel-sponsored general strike movement hit Havana's transport industry today and stopped construction on an American oil refinery on the outskirts of the city.

The strike was not wholly effective. Some public transport was operating and banks and stores were doing business as usual.

In Santiago, in the heart of Eastern Cuba, where the anti-Government rebels led by Fidel Castro have their largest following, the city was nearly paralyzed for the fifth straight day.

President Fulgencio Batista issued a statement from his residence at Camp Columbia declaring: "If there is any attempt at a general strike it will be crushed rapidly."

Four rebels were killed in a clash with a military patrol at Santiago de Cuba in a new outbreak of terrorism. Army headquarters said the men were killed while trying to set fire to a bus on Airport Road at Santiago de Cuba. (Reuters, UPI)

Indians Protest Anti-Strike Bill

NEW DELHI, Monday (Reuters). — Two thousand civil servants demonstrated outside the parliament building today in protest against a bill introduced in the House for the purpose of an anti-strike bill.

The bill, the final reading of which will be completed tomorrow, gives the Government powers to declare all strikes in essential services illegal, with imprisonment and fine for anyone organizing or taking part in them.

The bill is prompted by a threatened strike for more pay by about half-a-million civil servants, including telegraph, telephone and civil aviation employees, due to start at midnight on Thursday.

It adds, however, that the detaining power is obliged to treat him "with humanity," give him a fair trial, and grant rights guaranteed by the Convention as soon as possible.

The Red Cross informed the Israel Government today of the fact that its delegate in Cairo had not yet been able to see Eylon, the announcement added.

French Lose 21 Men In Two-Day Battle

ALGIERS, Monday (UPI). — French troops, artillery and aircraft blasted a rebel band of just 60 kms. southeast of here in a two-day battle that killed at least 36 persons, the authorities reported today.

A authorities said the battle against an estimated 100 rebels in wild hill country near the capital began Saturday and did not end until early this morning.

The French lost 21 dead and 15 wounded during the clash, the communication said. The rebels lost 36 dead and four captured.

PRAGUE ATTACKS NEW ECONOMIC COUNCILS

LONDON, Monday (Reuters). — Some of the 92 regional economic councils, set up recently under the Khrushchev plan for decentralizing industrial management in Russia, are already showing shortcomings and a "definite tendency towards bureaucracy," the Soviet Communist Party newspaper "Pravda" said today.

WARSAW, Monday (Reuters). — The full executive of the Warsaw Central District Communist Party, including the First Secretary, has resigned following criticism at a weekend committee meeting it was announced here.

Observers said the resignations could be considered a victory for the forward party of the Communist chief, Mr. Wladyslaw Gomulka.

ANTI-GOMULKA MEN QUIT PARTY C'TTEE

WARSAW, Monday (Reuters). — A party of 16 Yugoslavians, including six women, arrived here late Sunday on a small motorboat and asked for political asylum. They told officials at this Adriatic port that they left Spalato (Split) during the night of August 2 and slipped past Yugoslav coastal guards.

THE JERUSALEM POST

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1957

Arab Envoys Meet For Joint Action

CAIRO, Monday (Reuters). — Arab League envoys have been called into an extraordinary meeting here tomorrow to "formulate a joint plan to help the Imam of Oman, for immediate action against British imperialism."

The League General Secretary, Abdul Khalek Hasouna, has sent notes to the Afro-Asian "Bandung" states urging them to support Oman in her struggle, and intervene to stop British aggression against her. It was announced today.

Hasouna's note was accompanied by an appeal from the Imam of Oman, who is in revolt against the pro-British Sultan, for immediate action against British imperialism.

The League Secretary-General said the situation in Oman was "grave," and he described the British reasons for intervention as "too weak to require refutation."

Hasouna added that "Britain recognized the Imamate of Oman's independence in 1920," and claimed that "Britain's present aggression is contrary to the U.N. Charter and to the principles of the Bandung Conference" (attended by 29 Afro-Asian countries in Bandung, Indonesia, in 1955).

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Sending Cement To Persian Gulf

By MEIR BEN-DOV
Jerusalem Post Reporter

EILAT, Monday. — The Danish freighter Ulla Danelsen arrived here this morning from Massawa, Eritrea, with a 700-ton cargo of oil seeds and meat products.

She is shortly to sail for Persian Gulf ports with a cargo of 700 tons of cement and textile samples in a drive to open new export markets.

Pellegrino Passes Canal; Blacklisted

SUEZ, Monday. — The Italian freighter Monte Pellegrino, on charter to Israel, cleared the Suez Canal on Sunday night and continued its voyage south into the Red Sea. But an INA report, quoting the United Press, said that the vessel was blacklisted by the Egyptians and denied the right to take on provisions and supplies.

The freighter is en route from Haifa to East and South Africa with Israel exports.

The Norwegian freighter a.s. Hurbo, also on charter to an Israeli company, was due to reach Suez today on her way to Haifa from South Africa. (UPI, INA)

WASHINGTON, Monday (UPI). — "Eisenhower Doctrine" aid to the Middle East cost the U.S. \$174m. in its first four months and played a "central part" in improving conditions in the area, the White House told Congress today.

President Eisenhower, transmitting his first report to Congress on the execution of the joint Middle East resolution, said the programme has been "an unmistakable warning to international Communism against all forms of aggression."

Under the liberalized aid programme, established by the resolution, the President said, Special Ambassador James C. Richards made grants totalling \$52.9m. and loans of \$15m. for economic development and promised \$15m. in military aid.

Using the special authority of the joint resolution, the International Cooperation Administration has given \$55.1m. in economic aid.

In addition, the U.S. has contributed about \$7m. to the operation of the U.N. Emergency Force.

"A fresh opportunity has been opened up for the people of the area to tackle the manifold matters confronting them," the President said in his report to Congress.

He added, however, that "despite progress achieved, no grounds for complacency exist."

"The U.S. must persevere in the course upon which it has embarked if the high purposes embodied in the Resolution are to be realized. To do otherwise would be to break faith with the nations of the Middle East to the detriment of our own national security and the cause of world peace."

Both Soviet leaders, Mr. Khrushchev and Marshal Bulganin, attended a reception tonight given by the leader of the Syrian delegation in Moscow, Defence Minister Khaled el-Azem.

This is the first news of Mr. Bulganin's whereabouts since last Thursday, when speculation began about his future, since he did not accompany Mr. Khrushchev at talks in Rumania with President Tito last week and is not a member of the Soviet delegation which will visit East Berlin this week.

Jordan Officers To Train in Pakistan

LONDON, Monday (UPI). — "The Daily Telegraph" special correspondent in Amman, Colin Reid, reported today that Jordan army officers will in future be trained in Pakistan. This followed discussions between King Hussein and a Pakistani military mission in Amman whose visit coincided with the three-day official visit of Pakistan Premier Hussein Shuhraward.

Mr. Reid said that Pakistan training for the Jordan army means not only a complete break by Jordan with relics of the unified Arab command under Egypt's General Amer, but a definitive swing by Jordan towards the Baghdad Pact nations.

Chinese security police have arrested leaders of a counter-revolutionary organization plotting to overthrow the regime and system of cooperative ownership in Hunan and Hubei provinces in central China, Chinese Radio announced last night.

The Mapal Secretariat is to meet in Tel Aviv tomorrow to discuss the strike. The Party's Central Committee recently decided in favour of transference of the strike from the Haifa Council's jurisdiction to that of the Histadrut Executive.

Mr. Y. Almog, M.K., Secretary of the Council, came to Tel Aviv today for talks in preparation for the Secretariat meeting. (Histadrut Report—Page 3)

U.K. Team To Study Property in Cairo

LONDON, Monday (UPI). — The Foreign Office announced today that it is sending a fact-finding mission to Cairo next week to investigate Egyptian expropriation of British property.

"There is no question of diplomatic relations involved," the announcement said. "The fact that the delegation is confined to officials underlines the technical character of the mission."

"They will not go to negotiate," it said.

The announcement emphasized that the mission — consisting of one Treasury official and one from the Bank of England — will travel at the Egyptian Government's invitation.

This will be the second direct contact between Britain and Egypt since the Cairo regime broke off diplomatic relations during the Suez campaign last November.

This summer British and Egyptian officials met for technical talks in Rome on the release of British-blocked Egyptian funds. Agreement was reached on technical procedure for release of funds to pay for British ships using the Suez Canal but the talks were recessed without making progress on larger issues.

The Foreign Office emphasized that the new contacts will not be a "second round" of the Rome negotiations.

Russia Promises Aid to Syria Against 'Israeli Imperialism'

DAMASCUS, Monday (UPI). — Soviet Communist Party Secretary Khrushchev "guaranteed" aid to Syria against "any aggression," the newspaper "Al-Ahram" reported from Moscow today.

The paper's correspondent in the Russian capital wrote that Mr. Khrushchev made this pledge to Syria's visiting defence delegation. It was reported to have come in answer to a query on the Soviet position towards "Israeli imperialism."

Radio Moscow yesterday assured Syria she had "sincere friends" who would stand by her "in a good time and bad." The broadcast said Jordan was inspired by American "imperialists," and "those who fashioned the Eisenhower Doctrine" into "acting fast" in the Middle East. Syria, however, had not cause to fear for her "independence and sovereignty" in view of her "friends," the broadcast concluded.

The Syrian Ambassador, Mohammed El Far, declared today that it could now be asserted that all Syria's needs in respect of arms and equipment had been assured. ARA reported. He added that the recent agreement with Russia will "revive Syria's economy and help her carry out her vital economic projects."

At Damascus press conference today Syrian Foreign Minister Salah Bitar said in reply to reporters' questions that no "official news of discussions in Moscow is available." Damascus Radio reported this evening. He added, however, that no agreement could be concluded which would keep Syria's policy of positive neutrality and non-alignment.

The Jordan statement noted that the meeting had the effect of "purifying the atmosphere between the two countries" and that it was hoped that "a new chapter would open in their relations for the good of the Arab nation."

In the Syrian capital Foreign Minister Salah Bitar also expressed his hope that a new phase in the relations between the two countries would be inaugurated, according to Damascus Radio. Bitar said that the Jordan ultimatum would not have had such an importance had it not taken place at this particular juncture, accompanied as it was by various international complications involving "Western and American scheming in the Middle East."

Asked to comment on Sunday's statement by Lebanese President Camille Chamoun, Bitar said that some Arab states would have to change their policy in accordance with their interests of the Arab nation. He also charged the Lebanese press and some Lebanese circles with working against the Arabs' real interests.

Beirut Radio reported last night that an Iraqi official spokesman welcomed President Chamoun's call for an Arab Summit conference, adding that Iraq would welcome any step which would unite the Arab stand and do away with the causes of friction in the Arab world.

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'All Arms Needs Assured'

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Economic News from Abroad

Britain's Wage Inflation
A special meeting of members of the Government, employers in private and nationalized industries and union leaders is to be held at the end of the month to discuss ways and means of combating inflation in Britain. As a result of the recent increase in wages and other costs, the prices of a variety of goods have risen by five per cent and more, and a new round of rises is considered likely in the near future as many industries, which have hitherto preferred to maintain stable prices by cutting their profit margins, are no longer willing to continue this policy. The sudden apprehension of the inflation, any danger has already produced an unprecedented drop in gilt-edged quotations, and a new slight rise in the pound, but no clear programme to improve the situation has yet been proposed. The credit squeeze applied by the British authorities for the last two years halted the expansion of industrial output in 1956, but personal incomes at that year rose by seven per cent. In 1957 industrial production is expected to advance four or five per cent and personal incomes at double that rate.

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THE COMMON MARKET
The rapid progress in the ratification of the European Common Market Scheme has been a surprise even for its protagonists. Small as it is, the Common Market has already awakened the economic and political imagination of the world at large. In Israel, too, the Government has appointed a research committee and launched a discussion of the public to produce a coherent response and no specific attitudes have crystallized so far. The prevalent feeling seems to be that, whatever the egg-heads may claim and declaim about the necessity of adapting ourselves to international competition (which amounts to the same thing after all), the matter is not urgent because little or no ultimate change may be expected.

This may, of course, be mere complacency and inertia, but sober reflection shows that there is more to it than that. The basic argument in favour of the Common Market Scheme is that union is a prerequisite of survival, and it is quite natural that it should appeal to the old industrial countries of Europe now cornered by economically younger nations and fighting a rearguard battle to preserve their traditional standard of living and patterns of culture. By joining forces, each of them renounces a part—and an important one—of its sovereignty in order to maintain the independence and welfare of Europe as a whole.

This twin character of the scheme is manifested in the peculiar Common Market combination of free trade at home with a protective tariff towards the outside world. It has already aroused grave misgivings even in Britain, the U.S. and Japan, and with a comprehensive control of capital and labour (which may require a development project abroad).

It will require a tremendous amount of planning and organization, scrapping and shifting of industries and population to weld together the economies of the six Messina nations in the space of 15 years. For a country bent on a separate and unique task of absorbing mass immigration and building up a new nation participating in such a project? It may be true that in an age of mass production, large-scale markets are an economic necessity. But Zionism, which is also an economic fact, has often defied economic tenets.

Nevertheless, it would be foolish to assert that just because we cannot participate in the Common Market we can afford to ignore it. For its shadows upon world commerce long before it takes final shape. The next Congress of Mediterranean Cities, to be held in Barcelona in September of next year, will already have to work out, as one of its top priority tasks, a common attitude towards the Market, which will tend to exclude several major citrus exporters, including Israel, from the Continent.

Our industry and agriculture, both of which are just now bracing themselves for a new export drive, will also learn before long that though an investment boom may be in the offing in Europe, competition in overseas markets is likely to stiffen as a result of the forthcoming elimination of marginal producers.

This experience may lead to a fit of escapism and a claim for increased state protection, higher subsidies and bigger profits on the home market. It may, on the other hand, serve as a healthy stimulus to proceed in earnest with rationalization, cutting costs, relentlessly improving efficiency, and generally putting our house in order while there is still time.

The point should also be taken into consideration when we plan new industries if a waste of capital resources is to be averted. The new policy of actively assisting small and medium-size enterprises may be in need of reappraisal. And an attempt at new thinking may be necessary as regards Israel's participation in international cartels. As a matter of fact, it is not of commodity cartels that the Common Market Scheme has grown.

New Dollar Shortage Looming
A turn for the worse has recently taken place in the world dollar balance. For the period of four years the U.S. has been losing gold and liquid dollar assets at an average rate of \$1,500 million. In the last quarter of 1956, however, the U.S. gained \$300 million, and in the first quarter of this year another \$500 million. To some extent this has been the result of the Suez crisis and the big rise in American oil exports which has been capped by flight of capital to the U.S. But in addition to these temporary factors, there were others of a more permanent nature. U.S. exports of goods and services have been increasing from \$17,000 million in 1953 to an annual rate of \$26,000 million in the first quarter of 1957. Of the \$9,000 million of additional exports only \$3,000 million were balanced by an increase in U.S. imports. The rest was largely offset by steadily rising U.S. foreign investments abroad and by economic and military U.S. Federal expenditure overseas.

Hungary's Position
Despite the heavy damage done to Hungary's industry and agriculture during last year's uprising, the economic situation there improved rapidly from mid-December on, and by March output in all the main sectors of industry had been restored to between 75 and 90 per cent of the September, 1956 level. The retail trade turnover in the first quarter of 1957 was even 10 per cent above the corresponding period a year ago, at prices not significantly higher. However, this recovery has depended heavily on the running down of accumulated stocks and, in the near future, shortages of fuel and raw materials are likely to reappear unless drastic measures are taken to improve the supply position.

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STATE OWNS GROWING SHARE OF ECONOMY

Controller Suggests Formation of Holding Companies

By Our Economic Editor

WITH the State's entry into the economy, a major step has been taken to extend direct public control of the country's natural resources. At the same time, the vast assets of PICA are to be transferred to public ownership, and the claim that the government be given a proper voice in the management of Zim has been advanced.

Thus the State-controlled sector of our economy is expanding apace. In the last year, the new policy of vigorous industrial development with the aid of State loans and investments cannot but lead to increased public participation in the management of the country's resources, and the claim that the government be given a proper voice in the management of Zim has been advanced.

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One might tend to believe that the arbitrators, all Soviet nationals, would think it their duty to support the national cause without question. However, this is not the case with the Commission. The Soviet Government is desirous of guaranteeing the legal and impartial character of the Arbitration Courts so as to inspire confidence in the Soviet commercial world. The obligation to submit all commercial disputes to this commission is stated in a clause which is an integral part of every agreement arrived at between Soviet and Israeli companies. It is therefore obvious that the latter would never agree to such a clause if they were not certain of the Commission's impartiality and independence.

Arbitration Commission
The case has been referred to the Arbitration Commission of the Moscow Chamber of Commerce, which will hear it very soon. This Commission was formed in 1932 to judge litigations connected with foreign commercial relations. This Commission is composed of 15 members appointed by the Moscow Chamber of Commerce and belonging to Moscow's commercial circles.

HOUSING INVESTMENTS
Editor, The Jerusalem Post: Sir, In connection with the Minister of Finance's recent efforts to attract foreign private investment for the building of housing estates in Israel, it is worth examining the present attitude of the Government towards the Local Authorities to the owners of lands and houses.

On the one hand, rents have remained, against all logic and reason, frozen, and out of all proportion to the inflation and the constantly rising cost of living whilst on the other hand taxes and other charges have risen, multiplied to such an extent that no income is left to the landlord. More often than not, he has to raise monies from other sources, or mortgage his house, in order to pay special levies imposed on him for the construction of roads, drainage or shelters, amenities which are for the benefit of the community. The curious thing is that no honest person denies the existence of this anomalous situation, but no